

10/5/9956

1AP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 18 MAY 2006

ABSTRACT

A filter plate press with a plurality of filter plates. A resilient diaphragm is provided on one side only of each filter plate and hot water or steam can be passed between the diaphragm and the adjacent filter plate. Each filter plate has a steel core to provide high heat transfer, such that heated fluid between a diaphragm and a respective plate heats the filter chamber on the opposite side of the respective filter plate.